

THE LACLEDE BLADE

Entered at the postoffice at Laclede, Mo. as second class matter.

A. J. CAYWOOD.

Foreign Advertising Representative
THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1922.

Christmas

Again the spirit of Christmas is in the air. There is a softening of hearts one toward another; there is a new flash of happiness in the eyes; a new firmness is felt in the grip of our daily handshakes; something again seems to whisper to us that we are in the midst of a season so sacred that it is not to be compared with any other time of year.

From that time almost two thousand years ago when the One whose birth we are to celebrate next Monday stood upon the Mount and gave to humanity a new rule—a Golden Rule—the approach of Christmas finds the whole world with a song upon its lips. Men way war against men; disease may sweep vast sections and the grim reaper may swing his scythe with an unfailing hand, yet the approach of Christmas brings back joy to the hearts of the stricken, bolsters them up for whatever fate may have in store, and makes them, for the season, as light and happy-hearted as the children who romp about our feet.

There is a something about Christmas season it has not been given man to understand. Changed conditions, a hope and a prayer for greater blessings of health and prosperity for all humanity—these fall upon us in a shower along about this time each year, and yet we pass through it still unable to fathom its mystery. We know, somehow, some way, that it is the spirit of the Master of all Mankind coming into our hearts—we seem to feel that His smile is being shed upon us, and that we are receiving a benediction of happiness which fills our hearts to the fullest.

With the arrival of the Yuletide season once again we want to take this method of thanking in our own feeble way all those to whom this greeting may come for the cheerfulness they have passed on to us during the year soon closing. We want to hope that this has been a prosperous and a happy year for them—we want to extend to them our prayer that the year to come may be equally so. We are passing this way but once. If we have said or done that which would in a measure return the kindnesses shown us, we are glad. If we can say or do in the future the things that will lighten the heart of those about us, we shall be happy.

May Providence continue to shield and bless you and yours. May your Christmas be a happy, a merry, a contented one. And may you be spared to celebrate many more of them is the wish of The Blade.

"Lost Illusions"

In the columns of a periodical that was formerly somewhat friendly to the League of Nations idea, we find this assertion, "America has been absolutely right in keeping out of foreign affairs under the conditions and leadership that have prevailed since the armistice." The editorial from which this is quoted was very appropriately entitled "Lost Illusions." Fortunately for the United States, the republicans in the senate did not have

any illusions when the League question was presented in 1919. They went squarely on record in opposition to the United States joining the league, and defeated the Wilson proposal that this country make the "supreme sacrifice" America has been not only right but far-seeing in avoiding entanglements with conditions and leadership that would certainly have made the United States the burden bearer and scapegoat of the world.

A Boy's Peculiarities

If you want to wreck a boy's life, force him to hold his baby sister for half an hour each day and he'll become broken in spirit and will fade away and wither into an invalid beyond cure. If the young fellow is not imposed on in this manner he will grow and develop into a strong, healthy man, and when grown can sit and hold on his lap for hours without tiring a girl weighing all the way from 120 to 180 pounds. It is strange, but it is so, and we can quote a number of instances to prove that the theory is correct. A boy can run all day while at play, travel far and never think of being tired. But it is an awful punishment to require him to run two blocks on an errand. We once knew a young man who walked seventeen miles to see his girl, but he couldn't stand it to follow a plow two hours. Another young fellow walked four miles across fields to "hook" watermelons, but several blocks was too far for him to walk to church. Yes, sir—boys are certainly peculiar.

The season is now here when Young America can take a chance on death by seeing if the ice is strong enough to hold up and how close he can skate to a dangerous air-hole.

China's boy emperor recently married a girl whose face he had never seen. If our American girls don't quit using so much paint and powder American boys will be doing the same thing.

A wool expert informs us that the finest Saxony wool has 2,700 crinkles to the inch. After due deliberation we have decided to take his word for it and not count them.

Here are two short but sensible New Year resolutions—Resolve to subscribe for The Blade and resolve to tell your borrowing neighbor to do the same thing.

From the appeals now being made to this country we have been set to wondering how the European countries got by before America was discovered.

Mrs. Santa Claus must lead an awful disagreeable life, with her husband at home a whole year waiting for Christmas eve so he can be out.

From reading the daily papers one would conclude that the grim reaper had traded his scythe for an automobile.

The trouble with too many of our people is they think the best place to make money is some other place.

America appears to be a country bounded on the north by Canada and hounded on the east by sea-going bootleggers.

Before The Blade is printed again, this year will be last year and next year will be this year.

The hour to shop late and enjoy the crush is now here.

"Christmas gift!" shouts the kiddies.

Farm Bureau Meeting

The best annual meeting held in five years by the Linn County Farm Bureau convened at the court house in Linneus on Tuesday afternoon of last week. The room was entirely filled by leading farmers from every part of the county.

Glowing reports of last year's work was made by each of the project leaders.

Those from this part of the county taking part in the meeting were L. C. Riddell, soybean project leader, who gave a good report of the outstanding piece of work of the Bureau this year on soybeans. He showed that through the marketing of the 1921 crop beans of around 5,000 bushels, over \$1.00 per bushel was profit for the members and that the growers of soys have increased from over 400 to 1,200 this year.

Mrs. Lee Wilson, also of Laclede, head of the clothing work of the county, reported that 136 women who had been trained as community leaders gave 34 demonstrations with 625 in attendance; 256 women were given help; 192 taught the whole course in millinery and 480 hats were made at a saving of \$1,778.40 according to their own report. Ninety dress forms were made; 75 fitted patterns, and 250 garments completed.

All other heads of the Bureau work made equally as good reports.

The following officers were elected to serve during 1923: F. L. Fitch, president; Mrs. Geo. Gooch, Norman McDannald, L. C. Riddell, Mrs. Lee Wilson, C. A. Black, Mrs. Rolla Baugher, Mrs. Ralph McGhee, H. J. Woolf, A. A. Thorne and Mrs. J. H. McWilliams.

J. Robert Hall, county agent, reported that during the year he made 420 farm visits as compared with less than 200 last year. That 1899 persons called at his office for information and instruction, and that over 2,000 telephone calls had been made on him for service. This means that 12 people per day called for help while 178 meetings were held with a total of 1,615 persons in attendance. The Farm Bureau gave a vote of appreciation for his splendid service.

A very well rounded program of work was adopted for next year which includes something for every man, woman, boy and girl in the entire county.

Following the annual meeting the newly elected officers met and unanimously re-elected J. Robert Hall as county farm agent for another year and it is a source of pleasure to farm folk to know that Mr. Hall has accepted the proposition and will continue his work for at least another year.



Dr. C. W. Palm, Specialist in Optometry
Chillicothe, Mo., Manager

PALM

OPTICAL COMPANY

"The folks who grind a million kinds."

BROKEN LENSES
REPLACED

GROVER F. PEACHER

BREEDER OF

Spotted Poland Chinas

HOLSTEIN CATTLE

Phone 9511. - - Laclede, Mo.



Best Wishes
for Christmas
and the
Coming Year

OUR greatest asset is the good will of our customers and we sincerely appreciate your friendship as shown by your favors of the past. May the Yuletide be Merry and the New year abound with Happiness and Prosperity—this is our wish for you.

The HOME STORE

Comparative Statement of

The Benson Banking Company

Laclede, Missouri

DECEMBER, 1922	DECEMBER, 1921
RESOURCES	RESOURCES
Loans and discounts \$ 90,654.95	Loans and discounts \$ 69,808.44
Overdrafts 107.11	Overdrafts 204.08
Furniture, Fixtures 250.00	Furniture and Fixtures 250.00
U. S. Bonds 24,150.00	U. S. Bonds 24,300.00
Cash and Exchange 28,327.40	Cash and Exchange 26,538.91
Total \$143,489.46	\$121,021.41
LIABILITIES	LIABILITIES
Capital Stock \$ 10,000.00	Capital Stock \$10,000.00
Surplus and profits 7,972.10	Surplus and profits 8,213.16
Deposits 105,067.36	Deposits 82,308.25
Bonds deposited 20,450.00	Bonds Deposited 20,500.00
Total \$143,489.46	\$121,021.41

These statements per official call and are correct.
C. A. FELT, CASHIER

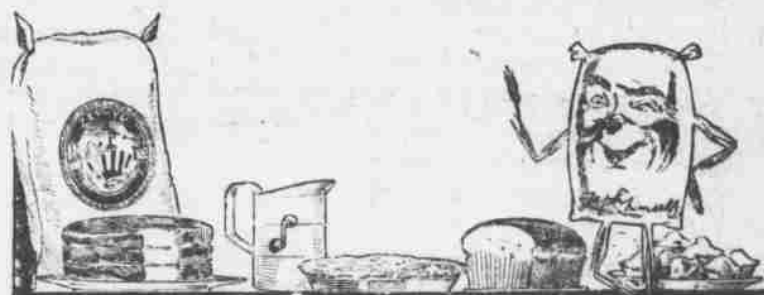
1895

1922

A Sincere Interest

In the financial welfare of each depositor, courtesy in attending to his needs, and the policy of confining ourselves strictly to legitimate banking transactions, free from all speculative features, are points which are contributing to the progress of this bank. The growth indicates the soundness of its business methods and the completeness of its banking service.

Lomax & Standly Bank,



Every measureful means baking satisfaction

THERE'S no need of depending upon the seasons to bring you appetizing dishes when you use Zephyr Flour. In season and out, silky snow-white Zephyr puts a wholesome tastiness to everything that comes from your kitchen.

Remember this: Zephyr is an unexcelled all-purpose flour—equally good for light loaves of healthful-brown crusted bread, rich delicious pies, and tempting cakes that never fail to delight the family. Ask your grocer about Zephyr Flour. He'll say

—It's worth the difference

ZEPHYR FLOUR

Wm. KRAFT.

Harris Bros., Brookfield. Z. S. Reece, Meadville.

EAGLE "MIKADO"

Pencil No. 174

For Sale at your Dealer
ASK FOR THE YELLOW PENCIL WITH THE RED BAND
EAGLE MIKADO
EAGLE PENCIL COMPANY, NEW YORK